



TOWN OF HAMDEN BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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2005 Connecticut State Building Code with 2009 & 2013 Amendments

Appendix G Swimming Pools, Spas & Hot Tubs Amd AG 105.2 Outdoor Swimming Pools Del items 10, 10.1, 10.2 replace with 10 means of access is a ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of Sect AG105.2 1-9.

Home Improvement Contractors have not followed many of these code requirements for pool barriers and code compliant ladders. A national chain store discount pools were selling non-compliant in Conn lift up & locking ladders on sale in the Sunday Register and displaying them on their sales floor without the proper surrounding lattice enclosure.(and telling homeowners they did not need a permit)

A certain Home Improvement Contractor was training pool installers when they were employed by him and those individuals are now installing above ground pools for homeowners are not licensed home improvement contractors and are having home owners take out permits or no one is permitting these pools or a third case they might be registered home improvement contractors and are choosing not to pull permits because they don't have liability or workers compensation insurance and don't want the liability. Sometimes they tell homeowners they took out permits and they lie.

If the State required all swimming pool installers to be licensed by the Commission of Consumer Protection as Swimming Pool Builders a lot of this confusion would be eliminated between discount pool companies, homeowners and keep out the people who act as swimming pool installers that can't afford or choose not to act as responsible contractors.

When responsible contractors come into Town Building Departments to apply for permits, Building Officials are required by State Statue to check their credentials. Including licenses and insurances and hear complaints about non-licensed installers.

Furthermore, these discount pool sales stores used to have their own employees above ground pool installers or subcontractors working on behalf of the store which in some cases made them responsible to follow through, have inspections sell proper compliant equipment and finalize & close out the permit. That is not the case today, most homeowners and home improvement contractors are not finalizing pool permits because of improper barriers and not compliant ladders. The in-ground swimming pool builders are not part of this problem. It is cut and dry. There are codes and regulations and I'm sorry to say this has been proven by an entrapment and death to fix the industry.

I hope it doesn't come to that for the above ground swimming pool industry. This is a very serious problem. When all parents want to do is provide some fun for their children and in reality they are providing a danger water risk of water (drowning) electricity (shock/injury) for their loved ones, children, neighbors & visitors.

Please delete the word partially from the proposed Bill LCO NO. 4301, so that all swimming pool installers must be licensed by the State of CT

3/11/15 James Gagliardi, Assistant Building Official, 203-287-7158